

2013 City of Austin Google Fiber Community Connections Program Application and Instructions

Google has announced plans to bring Google Fiber to Austin residents. The plan calls for building an ultra, high speed broadband network with Internet speeds of one gigabit per second, up to 100 times faster than normal to Austin's homes.

Google has agreed to provide up to 100 sites with broadband Internet services through its fiber network free of charge until April 8, 2023 in addition to City Hall and the new Central Library. These Community Connections will be to public or non-profit sites in the City of Austin that provide access and services directly to Austinites through what is being called the Community Connections program. Under the agreement with Google Fiber, the City of Austin will create the proposed list of sites for the program.

It is the City Council's goal to ensure an application and selection process that is transparent, available to all, and utilizes a clear set of selection criteria adopted by the City Council. Community Connections aims to provide fiber speed internet access directly to the public and will serve for innovation and digital inclusion, resulting in advancements unique to Austin's spirit.

Attached is the Community Connections Site Application, which is due by September 30, 2013.

Please direct questions to the City's Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs Office at digital.inclusion@austintexas.gov or 512-974-2999.

For more information and application: austintexas.gov/digitalinclusion

Thank you for your consideration.



Community Connections Site Selection Application Form

The City of Austin will propose **100** public or non-profit organizations to receive Google Fiber connections at their locations.

Application Packet

In order to be considered for selection, please submit the following items:

- **General Application Form.** Complete this form ensuring that it is signed and dated.
- **Criteria Form. Complete this form as fully as possible.** If the organization offers services at more than one location, the applicant should complete the Criteria Form for each location and prioritize the single location that will benefit the most from having a gigabit of service.

Application Submission

All applications are due in the Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs (TARA) before **4:45 p.m. on Friday, September 30, 2013**. Late applications will not be considered.

Submissions may be submitted by email or snail mail to:

Email: digital.inclusion@austintexas.gov

Address: City of Austin - Municipal Building -124 W. 8th Street, Suite 210, Austin, Texas 78701

Phone: 512.974.2999

Application Review Process

Community Applications

- August 26, 2013 - Community Site Applications Available
- September 30, 2013 - Deadline for Site Applications for Community Connections
- October 1-31, 2013 - Staff Review & Assessment

Site List Adoption

- November 6, 2013 – Community Tech & Telecommunications Commission - Discussion & Input
- November 13, 2013 – Emerging Technology & Telecommunications Council Committee - Discussion & Recommendation to Council
- November 21, 2013 - Council Discussion & Adoption of Community Connection Site List
- End of 2013 - Google Fiber requested deadline for Community Connection Site List from City

Privacy Statement

This information is being collected and will be used to assist in determining your organization's eligibility and qualification for receiving a community connection on the City's proposed site list. This information provided may be published by the City. Any information collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a governmental body is subject to the Public Information Act.

Community Connections General Application Form

General Application Form

Applicant Organization Name: YWCA Greater Austin

Alias/DBA: n/a

Program Name for Google Fiber Connection:

YWCA Greater Austin (Administrative facilitators for all YWCA programs)

YWCA Generation YW (youth programs, afterschool programs)

YWCA Counseling and Referral (women, family, & couples counseling)

YWCA Continuing Education Series (professional training for ALL Austin area counselors, necessary to maintain their license)

Organization Mission and Purpose:

Mission: Eliminating Racism. Empowering

Purpose: To stand for every woman and girl in the Austin community through advocacy, education, and the support necessary to build empowerment.

Organization Website:

www.ywcaaustin.org

Contact Name: Christian Cabazos

City: Austin

State: Texas

Zip: 78741

Phone: 512-326-1222

Email: christian@ywcaaustin.org

Location(s) applying for site selection (including physical address of location) and how long your organization plans on being at each location:

Type of Organization:

☒ Non-Profit

☐ Public Entity

Number of years in operation:

107 years

Number of employees at location:

14 employees

Community Connections Form

(Please complete this portion of application for each location in an electronic document and please explain each response, 1000 words maximum per response, please)

Criteria Form

Please include location if applying for more than one location:

Organization

1. What is your agency's vision? *(response required for all agencies)*

Our vision stems from our mission. Eliminating racism. Empowering women. The daunting yet very important task that we are committed to takes place in various initiatives and program supported by the YWCA Greater Austin. Our vision is to create a world where women feel empowered to accomplish their dreams free from fear of violence, institutionalized poverty, racism, sexism, and all other forms of discrimination. We stand for every woman, everywhere and our vision is to live in a world where girls and women feel that their life is greater than one lifespan but impacts us all.

2. What is your agency's mission and purpose? *(response required for all agencies)*

Eliminating racism. Empowering women.

3. Please list your organization's affiliations, community partnerships, certifications, and/or accreditations. *(response required for all agencies)*

Organization Affiliations/ Community Partnerships:

Reliant Communications

Good 360

Pershon Family Trust

Gatti's Pizza

Thunder Cloud Subs

Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation

Department of Health and Human Services

The State of Texas

The City of Austin

Child Inc.

Behavioral Health Planning Partnership

United Way: Success by Six Social Emotional Learning Collaborative

Raising Austin

Austin Child Guidance Center

Austin Recovery

Hutto Detention Center

Austin Independent School District:

- Mendez Middle School
- Bedichek Middle School
- Covington Middle School

Travis County Municipal Courts Precinct 4

Communities in Schools

Travis County Underage Drinking Prevention Task-force

LifeWorks

Travis County Integral Care

Travis County Crime Victim Fund

Ascend Center for Learning

Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition for Travis County

Certifications/ Accreditations:

Affiliate of YWCA USA

Certified to provide supervision of Master Level Counseling Students in practice

Intern site for students at The University of Texas (multiple programs), Texas State University, & St. Edward's University

Accredited provider of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for licensed social workers, marriage & family therapists, and professional counselors

4. What is the total number of unduplicated clients served by your organization at this location last fiscal year? *(response required for non-profit agencies only)*

Generation YW (youth program): 239 students

YWCA Counseling & Referral: 1,528 people

YWCA Training Program: 235 professionals

Total: 2002 people

5. Briefly provide an overview of your organization and the services it offers. *(response required for all agencies)*

Generation YW: Gen YW offers an evidence-based education/skills training program and alternative activities for middle and high school youth who are in the early stages of substance use and those that are exhibiting early signs of behavioral problems that can lead to use/abuse. This youth prevention program is designed to provide services to prevent or interrupt the onset or progression of substance use among at-risk youth who are exhibiting early signs of substance use or other related problem behaviors.

YWCA Counseling and Referral:

Individual/Couples/Family Counseling

We use the Relational-Cultural Therapy Model in counseling, which is informed by the feminist and multicultural movements in psychology.

- Sliding scale starts at \$5 for those who qualify
- Every effort is made to set appointment at the time of Intake call

- Counseling in Spanish
- Free counseling for women veterans
- Mental health and substance abuse issues both applicable

For more information or to speak with an intake counselor, call 326-1222.

Group Services The YWCA's group services are also informed by the Relational-Cultural Therapy Model, an approach that is very effective with women regardless of income status or ethnicity because of its inherent respect and consideration for clients' culture and relationships. Most recently, select YWCA counselors have begun to incorporate the Somatic Experiencing approach in counseling, a body-based approach that has shown excellent promise for genuine trauma healing.

Services for Special Populations Social Emotional Learning Collaborative (Success By 6)

Because research shows that child care teachers receiving mental health consultation are less likely to leave the profession and more likely to support the optimal development of young children, the YWCA provides a menu of services to 3 local high-needs centers identified by the United Way for Greater Austin tailored to their specific needs, including child assessments, teacher training, parent education, abuse prevention services, in individual and group counseling sessions. The YWCA coordinates their services with the other UWATX-funded SELC partners so that centers receive intensive not duplicative services targeted to their staff and enrolled families' need.

Support Group Services for Immigrant Women

The YWCA strives to address the unique needs, challenges, and opportunities of female migrants in the Central Texas area -- particularly those who find themselves isolated due to their immigration status. YWCRC counselors provide group services for women living at Posada Esperanza, a local transitional housing program for immigrant mothers and children escaping domestic or cultural violence. In addition, the YWCA also provides group services for immigrant women seeking asylum at the detention facility known as Don T. Hutto Residential Center.

YWCA Training Program: The YWCA Greater Austin's Continuing Education Series has built a solid reputation of presenting trainings on cutting edge topics of importance to mental health professionals throughout the year. With these trainings, licensed clinicians, educators and others working in social services have the opportunity to sharpen their counseling skills, gain new information, network with others in our community, and obtain continuing education credits. The YWCA Greater Austin is a CEU accredited provider for Social Work, LFMT and LPC Continuing Education Unit hours with each training offering three (3) CEU hours.

Unless otherwise indicated, the standard rate per training is \$35.00 for YWCA Greater Austin Members, \$50.00 for non-members and \$25.00 for students. For those who register for 3 or more trainings at the same time, the discount rate, through December 2013, is \$30.00 for YWCA Greater Austin Members, \$45.00 for non-members and \$20.00 for students

6. Describe the community issues your organization is attempting to address. Include a description of the population most at risk of experiencing the issues described. *(response required for non-profit agencies only)*

Our organization attempts to address a multitude of issues we feel the women and youth in the Austin community encounter. For example, our youth prevention program addresses and serves the needs of our most disenfranchised youth. Geographically, our services are provided for girls who attend middle schools in the predominantly Hispanic zip code areas of 78744, 78745 and 78749 in Travis County. Two of the three

targeted middle schools have been rated as Academically Unacceptable within the past 3 years. In all three schools, it is reported that students perform below or well below the state average in passing TAKS scores. Two of these are Title 1 schools.

Other program youth attend schools that are located in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, with 50% to almost 100% of students identified as being academically at risk. An average of 26% of students are identified as limited English proficient. However, we do provide services to one school where 46.5% are identified as limited English proficient. All three middle schools also performed under the AISD average of 74.5% for all TAKS tests.

Services are also provided at the YWCA Site offices for high school boys and girls that live in the 78702, 78704, 78741, 78744, 78745, 78723 and 78725 zip code areas. Risk factors for targeted youth include living in high stress environments characterized by poverty, high crime rates, communities with prevalent drug use and drug trafficking, substance use/abuse by youth and/or family members, single parent or two parent homes with poor family management skills, disconnect with school system, truancy, low grades and poor social coping skills.

We seek to implement and increase preventative and protective factors that exist among the target population including multi-generational family support systems, strong cultural identity, spiritual belief systems, ability to remain resilient and to maintain loyal family bonds in spite of economic struggles and problems associated with a basic disconnect to social systems that include school and community. Moreover, these youth also have significant adults within their school and community who are supportive of their efforts to function as drug-free adolescents. Our youth are increasingly becoming more receptive to utilizing program services to help improve their lives through our work.

Other community issues we attempt to address include counseling for women veterans and women from all backgrounds in the Austin community. Moreover, our counseling services provide mental health and wellness programs to immigrant women and children at the Hutto Detention Center. These women have come to the United States seeking asylum from other countries due to a variety of oppressive issues. These women are detained on an ongoing basis until their immigration status is resolved. Currently, between 400-500 predominately Spanish speaking women and children reside in the Hutto Detention Center. YWCA Greater Austin counselors go into the center weekly to provide highly traumatized women and children counseling.

We also work with community members such as teachers, counselors, social workers, and other individuals working with traumatic clients the opportunity to attend FREE group sessions to discuss the stresses of their jobs with one of our licensed counselors in an environment where these professionals can seek support and guidance from their peers.

Our YWCA Training Program seeks to ensure that counselors working in the Austin community can continue to practice by providing accredited education courses necessary to maintain licensure.

Advocacy issues the YWCA Greater Austin seeks to address include; women's health and reproductive rights, mental health funding, youth interventions, immigration reform, and racial justice initiatives.

7. Describe the demographics (e.g. ethnicity, gender, age, and income levels) and geographic characteristics of the community members your organization serves. (*response required for non-profit agencies only*)

Geographically our youth services serve the following community members, as stated earlier in our

application: Our services are provided for girls who attend middle schools in the predominantly Hispanic zip code areas of 78744, 78745 and 78749 in Travis County. Two of the three targeted middle schools have been rated as Academically Unacceptable within the past 3 years. In all three schools, it is reported that students perform below or well below the state average in passing TAKS scores. Two of these are Title 1 schools.

Other program youth attend schools that are located in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, with 50% to almost 100% of students identified as being academically at risk. An average of 26% of students is identified as limited English proficient. However, we do provide services to one school where 46.5% are identified as limited English proficient. All three middle schools also performed under the AISD average of 74.5% for all TAKS tests.

Services are also provided at the YWCA Site offices for high school boys and girls that live in the 78702, 78704, 78741, 78744, 78745, 78723 and 78725 zip code areas. Risk factors for targeted youth include living in high stress environments characterized by poverty, high crime rates, communities with prevalent drug use and drug trafficking, substance use/abuse by youth and/or family members, single parent or two parent homes with poor family management skills, disconnect with school system, truancy, low grades and poor social coping skills.

Our counseling program services all members of the Austin and Travis Community. 100% of all services must be initiated by women. This includes couples, family, and individual counseling sessions. Individual clients must be at least 18 years of age, if they are younger they fall under our family counseling category.

YW Counseling & Referral Center total served (2012) = 779

Of these:

37.74%	Latino/Hispanic
1.16%	American Indian or Alaska Native
1.54%	Asian
10.91%	Black or African American
39.28%	White
1.67%	Some other race
0.13%	All other two race combinations
6.68%	Other
0.90%	Unknown

3.59%	15 to 17 years old
0.00%	18 to 24 years old
64.44%	25 to 39 years old
26.83%	40 to 59 years old
3.21%	60 to 74 years old
0.00%	75 and over
1.93%	Unknown

Overall, 95 % of our population served was female 5% male and 89% of all served live 100% below the Federal income poverty guidelines.

8. Describe your organization's accessibility (e.g. accessible main entrance, within blocks of a public bus stop, etc.). *(response required for non-profit agencies only)*

Our offices are easily accessible by bus route (bus #13 and #31) drop off clients within a ¼ of a mile of our office. Our offices have two main entrances, a front entrance with stairs and a back entrance completely up to ADA standards.

9. If selected, how will your organization incorporate Google Fiber into the services it offers? *(response required for all agencies)*

Yes! We will be able to offer greater access to technology to our counselors, training program, and youth services. Particularly through video conferencing and research capabilities for our training program, counseling program, and youth program.

10. The City of Austin requires an annual report explaining how selected organizations and the community they serve benefit from Google Fiber. If selected, how will your organization measure the impact Google Fiber has on those served by your organization? Describe evaluation methods, goals, and objectives. *(response required for all agencies)*

Evaluation methods: Through monitoring the enrollment in training programs delivered via teleconference as well assessing the amount of knowledge counselors and licensed professionals feel they have taken away from our trainings we will evaluate the effectiveness of our Fiber connection. After every training session, classes are give a Likert scale assessment is distributed through the facilitator and will be compiled and quantified to measure the impact on teleconferencing training has on trainees.

Within our youth program, we can assess staff time spent on intakes and referrals through individual diary logs of time in comparison to previous years and amount of time allocated to individual student attention.

Objectives:

Objective 1: Increase access to mental health and wellness professionals on a national and international level

Objective 2: Increase access to specialized training programs

Objective 3: Create a time saving intake and referral network for youth program students using Google Fiber connection

Goals:

Goal 1: Within the first year of initiating the teleconferencing training program book at minimum a third of all trainings via teleconference

Goal 2: Within the first year of initiating the teleconference training program book a third of all trainings on specialized issues such as racial and social justice, trauma, and semantic experiencing

Goal 3: Reduce time spent on intakes and referrals and increase individual time allocated to students by 50%

Community

(responses required for all agencies)

1. Briefly describe how Google Fiber will enhance public participation in your organization's service.

Public participation in our organization would increase through demolishing geographic barriers. Through a Google Fiber connection the YWCA Greater Austin will be able to connect experts, top professionals, board members, students, professors, counselors, with our staff providing them with a larger range of knowledge through teleconferencing. Our organization is willing to invest in top of the line teleconferencing equipment and would like to couple that with a Google Fiber connection that would make every presentation, every meeting, and every counseling training session feel like it is taking place in real time and not an internet delay. We want to invest in our future by allowing our clients, professionals, and staff to connect across time and space to one another.

2. Briefly describe how your organization promotes digital inclusion.

The YWCA Greater Austin has minimal capabilities right now to promote digital inclusion. Through a Google Fiber connection we will be able to amplify our outreach and provide technological advances to students, veterans, families, and the greater Austin community.

3. Will bringing Google Fiber to your organization help the underserved? Please explain.

Yes. Through creating digital connections for our youth and training programs. By connecting our youth program to the research and resources necessary to make sure they are addressing the current trends in drug use and prevention we can further help underserved youth in our community. As well as, train our Austin area counselors in the best practices for treating their clients. Through greater access to experts, professionals at the top of their game, and new resources; we can help the diverse needs of our underserved populations. A Google Fiber connection, allows the YWCA Greater Austin to open new doors of opportunity to our youth program and training program needed through a technological connection. We have the social network to connect them to the resources they need, now we need the internet connection to support that need.

4. How much of your community will benefit from the Google Fiber connection?

The YWCA Greater Austin stands for every woman in the Austin community. As such a Google Fiber connection will directly or indirectly impact everyone in our community. When we invest in our students, our women veterans, our families, our mothers, our sisters, and the women of the Austin community in general everyone benefits.

5. Briefly describe how your organization will offer a new community service as a result of the Google Fiber connection.

One highlighted new service we could offer is our teleconference training. Our training program could grow and expand through the use of video conferencing with top professionals in the counseling and mental health care field. The ability to bring in a professional from New York or London to the Austin community is invaluable in sharpening our local counselor's skills and tool box for treating the women in our area.

Innovation

(responses required for all agencies)

1. Please describe the potential innovative applications that could be developed with a gigabit connection.

Faster and sooner are the two ways we see potential innovations through the use of a gigabit connection. The YWCA Greater Austin is a small non-profit that can advance and expand our youth services. Our youth program targets at-risk (use of alcohol, drugs, and other destructive behaviors) in both middle and high schools in the Austin community. Our youth program can look into innovative applications that are relevant to students. Our youth staff must research trends, statistics, uses, and data to support their curriculum. The current internet connections provide slow to access the materials they require. A new connection will change that reality. Even more important, our staff will be able to cut intake time and make referrals faster, this will allow the staff to focus their time on creating a greater connection and relationship with the youth in our program.

Additionally, the gigabit connection will allow us to train counseling professionals in new and exciting ways. We will be able to offer a wider range of training courses from around the world by top professionals that can video conference into our offices. This creates an opportunity for licensed professionals to sharpen their skills in their own community.

2. Does your organization have or foresee high bandwidth applications?

Yes. We foresee the use of a high bandwidth application to ensure enhanced teleconferencing in our training room. A high definition telepresence requires 24 Mbps along with 50 millisecond latency to create the feel of being in the same room as the speaker. These capabilities are far out of the reach of the YWCA Greater Austin. On a non-profit budget we cannot afford to fly these experts to train counselors or licensed professionals but we can afford to teleconference with them. Ultimately, high definition telepresence would allow the YWCA Greater Austin to increase the accessibility to experts in a variety of fields to connect with the community we serve.

3. Briefly describe how your organization is interested in advancing your technology.

Our organization is interested in advancing our technology particularly through our training program. As one of the largest and highly regarded counselor training programs in the city, the YWCA Greater Austin is in need of an internet upgrade. Every week we hold on average 2 trainings for Austin community therapists, counselors, volunteers, staff, and licensed clinicians can engage in the most innovative and up to date training methods. Our organization willing to invest in smart boards, new computers, and other technology needed to keep our training current and relevant to the professional Austin community of counselors through donations and underwriting. This will assist them in better serving the people of Austin through the most current and relevant practices.

4. Does your organization have the capacity and resources to advance your technologies? Please explain.

Yes. Our organization currently works with Central Texas Technology Solutions who manage all of our IT needs. They have ensured us that if given the opportunity to benefit from a Google Fiber connection, they would be able to provide the support necessary to maintain and initiate its use on all

YWCA Greater Austin technology.

Practical Pragmatic
(responses required for all agencies)

1. Will the connection help your organization financially? How?

Yes! Financially, the YWCA Greater Austin would benefit exponentially by not having to allocate overhead funds to internet costs. This would help us facilitate funds into our programs or equipment for counselors, youth staff, and training staff. It will also open up technological opportunities for our programs that we would not be able to afford otherwise.

2. Will this be the organization's primary or secondary connection?

If the YWCA Greater Austin received the Google Fiber network it would be the organization's primary internet connection.

3. Does your organization have (or will it have) equipment necessary to connect?

Our organization would invest in the necessary equipment needed to run the connection.

4. Does your organization currently have access to a high bandwidth connection?

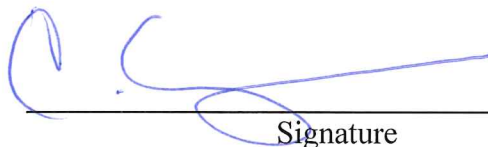
Yes. The YWCA Greater Austin currently has limited access to high bandwidth connection.

Applicant's Statement

I certify that answers given herein are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that false or misleading information given in my application will result in disqualification. I understand and agree that I am required to abide by City of Austin ordinances, policies and rules.

I understand if selected to receive a Google Fiber connection that the organization I represent may be required to:

☒ submit an annual report to the TARA Office explaining how the organization has benefited from the free service.



Signature

9/30/13

Date

Development Coordinator

Title

Please submit this form to TARA by 4:45 p.m. on Friday, September 30, 2013.

Email: digital.inclusion@austintexas.gov

Address: City of Austin – TARA - Municipal Building
124 W. 8th Street, Suite 210
Austin, Texas 78701